

Banyule BUG (BBUG) Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 9th August 2023

City of Banyule Council Chambers Ivanhoe

In attendance: Maurie Abbott, Les Bennett, Gordon Bettenay, Don Astbury, Michael Dunlop, Peter Gurney, Lee Jukes, Tom Melican, Ralph Nardella, John Perkins, Peter McCartney, Bob West, Arnold Wheeler, Simon Greaves, Christopher Blampied, Jean Mehrstens, Terry Makin, Chris Stewart, Geoff Sutter, Colin McKnight, Fran Stapleton, Ralph Brown, Jacques Chaperon

Apologies: Richard Bysouth, Sue Griffith, John Pietka, Trevor Morgan, Irene Gerard, Kathy Liley, Andrew Hollis, Elaine Rees, Gerry Thorn

Minutes:

1. Welcome - Peter Gurney, BBUG President, opened the meeting with an acknowledgment of the Wurundjeri people, traditional custodians of the surrounding lands, and paid respects to their Elders: past, present and future. He thanked Councillor Tom Melican for arranging the meeting venue and welcomed members to the meeting.

2. Minutes of the 2022 BBUG AGM

Amendment to minutes: No amendments were required.

It was moved that the minutes be accepted and confirmed. Moved: Gordon Bettenay, seconded: Michael Dunlop. Carried.

2.1 Business arising from 2022 minutes

The club has had meetings at a number of different venues over the last year. A regular meeting venue is sought.

Various activities, including Kelvin Chalmier's 95th birthday, Tour de Banyule video and the Banyule Eco Festival bike parking were held during the year which helped to publicise cycling and Banyule BUG whilst maintaining good relations with Banyule council.

3. President's report (*refer appendix A*)

BBUG President, Peter Gurney presented his report. He thanked the executive and committee members for their work and support over the last year. Peter also extended thanks to ride leaders on behalf of the club. He pointed out that while there had been a number of accidents on BUG rides over the year, none involved a collision with another vehicle, cyclist or pedestrian. This reflected the effort of ride leaders and also that most members comply with the BUG's encouraging members to ride wearing hi-vis tops and helmets, to show lights front and rear, and to be considerate and safety conscious.

The proportion of active female riders in both Latte and Lycra groups has increased and females now make up thirty percent of club membership. A growing proportion of riders now ride E bikes on both Lycra and Latte rides. Typical rider numbers are 18 to 25 for Latte rides, which are now split into two groups with staggered start times, and 12 for Lycra rides.

It was moved that the President's report be accepted. Moved: Peter Gurney, seconded: John Perkins. Carried.

4. Secretary's report

BBUG Secretary, Jacques Chaperon reported that all registered organizations reporting requirements are up to date.

5. Treasurer's report (*refer Financial Report appendix B*)

BBUG Treasurer, John Perkins, presented his report. BBUG bank balance in June 2023 is \$4,306. Our annual insurance is about \$2,160 and a 3 to 4 year supply of new jerseys cost \$2,400. The jerseys will sell for \$45 each. Financial and life members total 107, membership fees collected were \$2,640, bike counting income was \$390 and jersey sales \$350.

It was moved that the Treasurer's report be accepted. Moved: Terry Makin, seconded: Bob West. Carried.

6. Election of new committee

Following a call for nominations the following were elected:

President – Peter Gurney

Vice President – John Pietka

Secretary – Jaques Chaperon

Treasurer – John Perkins

Committee: Les Bennett Michael Dunlop, Irene Gerard, Sue Griffith, Ralph Nardella, Bob West, Colin McKnight, Jean Mehrtens

Postal box, festival parking, newsletter posting – vacant for the present

Lycra group ride coordinator – John Perkins, Ralph Nardella

Latte group ride coordinator – Peter Gurney

Newsletter editor – Alan Garbutt

Website – Maurie Abbott

7. Annual subscription (*refer Recommended Fee Structure appendix C*)

Recommended fees from 1 July 2024 to ensure there will be enough money to cover insurance and other costs and assuming a conservative number of riding members.

Renewing members \$45 riding member \$20 social member

New members \$45 riding member with a jersey if joining during the financial year

\$25 riding member with no jersey if joining from 1 January to 30 June

\$20 social member

Jean Mehrtens observed that the proposed fees were less than \$1 per week or \$0.50 per ride.

Peter Gurney acknowledged John Perkin's considerable effort in sourcing new jerseys at a reasonable price.

It was moved that the new fees be adopted from 1 July 2024.

Moved: Gordon Bettenay, seconded: Michael Dunlop. Carried.

8. General business

8.1 There was discussion on whether to celebrate the BUGs 30th or 50th anniversaries in the next couple of years by compiling a club history by collecting memories of the original members of Heidelberg BUG formed in about 1975 and Banyule BUG formed in about 1996. Other possible celebrations may include a special annual dinner and a ride of 50 km by 50 members on cycling trails.

This matter is to be circulated to members for consideration and if enough support then a subcommittee should be formed to foster the history and celebrations.

Moved: Terry Makin, seconded: Bob West. Carried.

8.2 It was decided to form a subcommittee led by Jean Mehrtens to lobby the Department of Transport and Planning, Parks Victoria, local parliamentarians, the City of Banyule and other nearby LGAs on cycling issues including the Northern Trails Strategy, Strategic Cycling Corridors and the Main Yarra Trail.

Moved: Terry Makin, seconded: Jean Mehrtens.

8.3 Forthcoming social events – to which all club members are encouraged to attend.

- Annual Club Dinner – Wednesday night 18th October at Watsonia RSL. This event is to be publicised widely and intentions to be noted. Fifty or more participants are sought.
- Christmas ride and picnic morning tea Tuesday 5th December to Studley Park.

Meeting closed at 8:45 pm.

Geoff Sutter gave an excellent presentation including some beautiful photos of his cycling, driving and walking tour in Chile.

Appendix A Banyule Bicycle User's Group

President's Report - AGM 9th August 2023

It is good to have such a worthy and pleasant venue for our AGM. Thanks to life member and Counsellor Tom Melican for arranging the use of the City of Banyule council chambers, and thanks to all members who have attended.

Over the last twelve months Banyule BUG has continued to offer a range of group social cycling options for our members, membership numbers have remained strong at more than 100 with a high participation rate by female cyclists. The number of e-bikers is increasing. In fact, ride numbers at latte group rides have generally been between 18 and 26 for about a year and for the first six months of this year the splitting of the ride group was often necessary for safety and management.

Following some consideration and discussion by a group of latte cyclists in June we decided to formalise the ride splitting by having two departure times, 9.20 am and 9.30 am, and two ride leaders for each and every Latte Group ride. This has applied since July. We all ride to the same destination café but each ride leader can choose their group's route. This seems to be working well and we will stay with it until September as a trial.

Lycra group rides of around a dozen cyclists are doing well.

On behalf of the club, I would like to thank the executive group and the committee for their generous efforts on behalf of us all. VP John Pietka, Treasurer and Membership Officer John Perkins and our Secretary Jacques Chaperon work very well to keep us conforming to various rules of association and financially compliant. John Pietka also sorts the social venues for our club dinner and Christmas picnic while the other John also puts in great effort to keep up our stock of club jerseys and reasonably priced. Also, John Perkins and I provide the ride programs for Lycra and Latte riders.

Thanks also to this year's committee: Sue Griffith our minute secretary, and Irene Gerrard, Michael Dunlop, Bob West, Les Bennet and Ralph Nardella for their support and advice to myself and the executive over the last twelve months. Special thanks go to Maurie Abbott for managing the web site and to Allan Garbutt for the very worthwhile monthly newsletters.

Banyule BUG promotes safe group cycling. Therefore considerable responsibility falls on the ride leaders in both of our groups. For such a large club with five weekly rides plus a number of country rides over the year we fortunately have very few reportable incidents and injuries. I thank the ride leaders for successfully and safely leading us as we cycle through the year. Since the last AGM I am aware of the following reportable incidents – Yours Truly, I came off my bike on a wet Sunday club ride last September on the Koonung Creek trail when my front wheel crossed a wet white line marking and down I went. Large bruises to right hip, thigh and shoulder but Ok to ride again in a fortnight. Lou Bosco pranged on tram lines and was quite seriously injured late in 2022. Thankfully Lou has recovered and is back on his bike. Elaine Rees had a fall on the MYT and broke a thumb. That didn't slow Elaine and she was back on her bike soon after. Allan Garbutt, our erstwhile newsletter editor,

literally hit the deck one wet day recently on a timber decking section of the Darebin Creek trail. Thankfully Allan was only bruised and shaken but not seriously hurt and was riding within a week. All these falls are single rider incidents, no reportable collisions with vehicles, cyclists or pedestrians on club rides.

I am pleased to note that most if not all those taking part in club rides dress in bright hivi colours and many also have lights operating front and rear. I am sure those measures and sensible riding help to reduce collisions and injuries and keeps the paperwork down.

Sadly, two former members of Banyule BUG passed away from illness in the last twelve months, both interesting characters. Elizabeth Thompson died in December last year, and Jim Hutton passed away a couple of months ago. Cards and condolences were sent on the club's behalf.

Advocacy.

There have been representations made to Merri-bek council, Darebin council and Boroondara council and Banyule council regarding infrastructure safety issues.

Two approaches to Merri-bek regarding unsafe and obstructed approaches to a bridge on the Merri Creek trail have resulted in no more than a cursory reply and no action at all.

Darebin council's reaction to the danger of the wet decking on the Darebin Creek trail was prompt but unhelpful. A repechage has been sent but so far no reply.

Boroondara council on the other hand worked very quickly to clean the Anniversary trail south of Whitehorse Rd which, following the wet summer and early autumn had areas of silt and rotting vegetation across the path which were slip hazards to cyclists.

Banyule council have not yet remediated the Wilson Reserve trail west of Burke Rd although I have had a positive response from the mayor. The problem is a considerable number of large mud wallows which are both a danger to cyclists and pedestrians. I guess when the ground dries out there may be some work done. If not, I'll contact council again.

A score of only one out of four at this stage.

Publicity.

The BUG has achieved some good publicity since the last AGM. The celebration Of Kelvin Chamier's 95th birthday and the council provided morning tea last November generated articles in Banyule's Age in Focus magazine, the Banyule Banner and the Victorian edition of the Senior's Newspaper.

Our contribution of secure bike parking in November at Banyule's Eco Fest in Montmorency caught the public's eye and assisted to maintain good relations with Banyule council.

The recent videoing of council's promotion of cycling in time with the Tour de France, the so-called Tour de Banyule, was a bit of fun and resulted in a brief but clever video on Facebook and Instagram. Council has advised me that there had been over 2,000 viewings of the video within the first week. Once again, good contact with council to our mutual benefit.

I think about 500 of those viewings might be the 16 club members who took part trying to see themselves.

Social Activities.

We've done well socially with our bi-monthly informal dinners at Godfather's restaurant in Briar Hill, the club annual dinner last October in Eltham (more than 60 attendees), Kelvin's 95th birthday bike ride and morning tea courtesy of Banyule council. This was attended by numerous club members, three councillors, and three members of Kelvin's family. The club Christmas picnic, despite some iffy weather, was once again well attended and nicely organised. There have been also a couple of pub dinners on overnight country rides which were fun and encouraged the mingling of our members away from home.

Thanks to all involved in organising and attending these events. It's no wonder that the club continues to attract new members and to encourage active ageing and social contact.

Future Activities (Subject to the new committee's agreement)

The club annual dinner will be held in a private function room at the Watsonia RSL on Wednesday 18th October. Details will be sent out in September and we will need to know numbers attending for catering and seating by early October. Thanks to John Pietka for his work on this. It promises to be a fun night in our own space, good food, and drinks at RSL prices.

Kelvin's 96th birthday ride on Friday 3rd November will be open to all club members and provides an opportunity to celebrate Kelvin's inspiring and positive approach to life, and also to celebrate our own active physical and social approach to living as we age.

The BUG Christmas picnic will be on Tuesday 5th December. The Studley Park Boathouse has been undergoing renovations which hopefully will be concluded soon. They were supposed to be completed by mid-year. Studley Park is a great venue for our gathering and while the boathouse café is not vital to our celebration it is handy for us coffee drinkers.

Peter Gurney

President, Banyule Bicycle Users Group

Appendix B
Banyule Bicycle User Group
Annual General Meeting — 9 August 2023
Financial Report

Banyule BUG continues to enjoy a good financial position. Our opening bank balance stood at \$6,178 on 1 July 2022, with a closing balance of \$4,306 on 30 June 2023.

Expenditure

Why the big drop in the bank balance – almost \$2,000? We had two major expenditure items in the year. One was the club's Public Liability annual insurance premium: \$2,160 for 2022/3, an increase of \$130 over the previous year.

The second was the purchase of new Banyule BUG jerseys. Stocks had almost dwindled away, especially in small and medium sizes, and the committee approved the purchase of a new batch. Manufacturing costs had surged over the Covid years — sixty jerseys cost us c.\$2,400. These are available for sale to current or new members at \$45/unit, in the anticipation of future inflation. There should be sufficient jerseys for the next 3-4 years.

Club assets, other than the bank account, have been depreciated again but have little real sales value – probably less than \$1,000.

Income

Income from members' fees from July 2022 to June 2023 totaled \$2,640. There was \$390 income from bike counting on Super Tuesday or Super Sunday during the year — many thanks to the members who took part. Sales of the new club jerseys yielded \$350.

Financial and life memberships closed at 107 persons, our highest number yet. As always, some members did not re-enrol but a greater number of new members joined, particularly in the second half of 2023.

Implications for membership fees 2024/25

The club is required to set membership fees twelve months in advance, at an AGM. The current renewal fees are \$35/year for riding members and \$10/yr for social members. Absolute minimum recurring costs are around \$2,600/annum and likely to rise with inflation. Expenditure in 2022/23 totaled \$5,515. Removing the cost of jerseys gives typical annual costs of c.\$3,145. This is the figure to keep in mind when discussing any changes to our fee structure later in the meeting.

John Perkins
Treasurer, Banyule BUG

2 August 2023

Banyule BUG Financial Statement 2022/23

Banyule Bicycle User Group Inc.			
Reg Number A0036671P			
Financial Year 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023			
Bank Balance as at 1 July 2022			6,178.55
Receipts for the Period			
Members Fees		2,641.00	
Bike Counting (fund raising)		390.00	
Bank Interest		0.00	
Club Kit		349.00	
Miscellaneous		263.58	
	Total receipts		3,643.58
Expenditure for the Period			
Associations Incorporation Fee		61.20	
Domain Registration/Hosting		68.40	
PO Box		148.00	
Stationery		0.00	
Postage		0.00	
Insurance		2,160.28	
Club Kit		2,370.00	
Trailer Registration		62.74	
Prizes and Awards		0.00	
Miscellaneous		644.88	
	Total Expenditure		5,515.50
Records Balance on 30 Jun 2023			\$4,306.63
<i>Bank reconciliation (unpresented cheques)</i>			
Bank Balance on 30 Jun 2023			\$4,306.63
Summary of Assets			\$
Cheque Account Balance			4,306.63
Trailer Towpax (8x5) and Jockey Wheel Reg: P74504			700.00
Club Banner (Qty 2)			20.00
Safety Fence Posts (Qty 16)			20.00
Rolls Safety Fence (Qty 2)			20.00
Marquee 6m x 3m			100.00
Tool kits			30.00
Walkie talkies high power (2 sets)			150.00
Stake post driver			30.00
A4 Laminator			10.00
Total Assets			\$5,386.63
	Financial members	107	(incl life members)
	Not yet financial	0	
	Total	107	6-Mar-23
Major Recurring Costs (estimated)			
	Corporation Fee		March 60.00
	PO Box		March 150.00
	Website domain rego		15.00
	Website hosting		February 70.00
	Postage		10.00
	Insurance		July 2,200.00
	Trailer registration		December 80.00
			\$2,585.00

Appendix C Banyule Bicycle User Group

Annual General Meeting, 9 August 2023

Recommended Fee Structure from 1st July 2024-----
Current Fee Structure:

<i>Annual renewal</i>	\$35/riding member \$10/social member
<i>New member</i>	\$35/rider (without jersey, Jul — Dec) or \$45/rider (with jersey, Jul — Dec) \$20/rider (without jersey, Jan — Jun) or \$45/rider (with jersey, Jan-Jun)

For Consideration:

- Fees are set twelve months in advance. Possible inflation needs to be taken into account.
- Recommended a minimum annual fee income of c.\$3,200 be set for the near future.
- Be conservative on membership numbers – assume 75 people pay the full fee each year. Enrolments have been higher but not everyone pays the full fee.
 - \$3,200/75 = \$43/person.

Recommend Fee Structure from 1 July 2024:

<i>Annual renewal</i>	\$45/riding member \$20/social member
<i>New member</i>	\$45/rider (includes jersey, Jul — Dec) \$25/rider (without jersey, Jan — Jun) or \$45/rider (with jersey, Jan-Jun) \$20/social member

Benefits:

- Likely to remain for two years, possibly three.
- As before, equates annual fee with jersey cost — new members get a “free” jersey.
- Only \$10/yr more than the current fee.

John Perkins

Treasurer, Banyule BUG 31 July 2023